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## MINUTES

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TO: Educational Policies and Programs Committee  
FROM: Taylor Herren, Secretary  
DATE: October 9, 2014  
SUBJ: EPPC MINUTES – October 9, K-207, 2:30 p.m.

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**Members present: Boyd, Donoho, Ford(Rowberg), Janos, Kaiser (Ellingson), Lee (Schindler), Livingston, McConkey, Nichols, Roll, Schierenbeck, Thompson, Kemper, Postma, Wolf, Loker, Trethewey, Herren**

*Meeting called to order at 2:32 pm*

1. Approve **minutes** of October 2, 2014 meeting - passed unanimously (moved Kaiser, second Thompson)  
*Discussion:*  
Mechanism to make sure that the people who presented to proposal for the center see the minutes.  
Questioned the use of the word notoriety (Wolfe) (second page 6D). (Betsy) it may be a quote from the presenter.
2. Approve today's **agenda** -- approved
3. Announcements  
(Kaiser) New Years Festival for the Hmong community. The event has been hosted at Chico High. There have been two incidences where the event spiraled out of control. Two of the young men that were shot the next day were the ones who escaped.

(Thompson) have there been any discussion between the leaders from the Hmong Community Organization and the police department. Concern about the economic loss and the impact that it is having on that local community. Every officer was called into the office the next day to discuss what happened. There was damage done to the school site.

(Michelle) Concert with Daniel Hlestand on October 11th at 7:30pm.

(Loker) Tomorrow at 3:30/4:40 artist will be making a public presentation and he is a book illustrator. It is an event sponsored by the School of Education and the Book in Common Committee. There is a conversation on Saturday in the k-12 community to discuss ways to inspire creative thinking.

(Boyd) Ninth Annual Sierra Oro Farm Trail Passport this weekend, tickets are \$25 and there are over two dozen stops

(Wolfe) Chico Great Debate will take place October 24th in the Chico City Plaza and the Chico City Chambers, Zach Justus is coordinator for the event. They are looking for volunteers to help and come to watch students and hear what they have to say.

4. Chair's Prerogative

a. Update - Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve – Katy Thoma, 2:45 pm

*Please see Appendix A for a written summary of the history provided by Thoma.*

- Katy Thoma is the Executive Director for the Research Foundation. The Native Americans were the first owners of the property and were here for over 500 years. The University still has a relationship with the Mechoopdas but the Research Foundation does not. In 1850 people came from Europe and the flume was built which went into the early part of the 20th century. 1990 BCER was acquired from a host of national organizations along with Jack Henning who was a cattle rancher. The Conservation Board regulates what can and can't be done on this board. The BLM also owns part of the land and the Foundation is working with them on several issues; one of which is increasing safety safe way especially in regards to hunting).
- Services offered: opportunities for faculty and students to come and research with students. The Outdoor Education program where students can come up, there is still trips going up there with students even though the k-12 program was discontinued. Ecological reserve is still in use and is over 91 acres (by Honey Run). Prior to the deck collapse there was a conference center, room rental. The conference center has been found to be unsafe and the RF brought in to independent architectures and the repairs would cost approximately \$800,000. CEQA - environmental quality assessment.
- The Provost Office entered into a contract with the Research Foundation to allow the students and the faculty to use the lands. \$285,000 payment per year and that is for a director, coordinator and administrator support. The President gave money to take care of some deferred maintenance. Now there is sustainable funding for the land. Research Foundation Website and there is a link to the BCCR. You use RAM (research access management) it allows the RF to track the use of the reserve (benefit analysis).
- (EPPC member) Echo two different sides of this lens. Editorial by the ER shortly after it was closed to the public. The major point that the ER was making was that this land was bought with public funds and that the land was intended to be used and available to the public. There is an outdoor education in K12 and it was a huge loss to that system. (Thoma response) K12 are still able to take field trips. There is no fee to actually use the land but there is incurred cost to the district (bus, leave time). Is it possible for us to see some of the reports. Because of the debt failure and the lawsuit the information cannot be released. The statute of limitations goes through the remainder of the year so information cannot be released before then. Faculty in the TAC committee have make recommendations to the RF and there is concern that the feedback has not been taken.
- (EPPC member) Alarms me a little bit because treefall is part of the natural ecology. I do not use BCCR as a faculty because long before the deck collapsed she was worries about infrastructure. What is the reporting structure now? The RF owns the BCCR so

the director will be a RF employee. Currently there is an interim coordinator and that person will be directly reported to Thoma.

- (EPPC member) What is RAM? It is a software program that is run by the UC. Reserve Access Management system. There is a link to that on the RF homepage.
- (EPPC member) Wants to understand why it went from under the oversight on Institute for Sustainable Development and the College of Natural Science. There were state employees that were making decisions for the RF, it is a research function and not a research function. Why would you eliminate a program that was called an outdoor education program (outdoor classroom) it meets the curriculum standard but it also brings over 1000 students to the reserve. Once there is a new director is hired that program will restart. When will that happen, there is an applicant pool. The second interviews should be complete by the end of the year. The CA invasive plant council is meeting here on campus today and a student is giving a presentation on BCCR. Will there be an opportunity for EPPC to review the reports and the feedback from previous recommendations. It is free to the public, who can use the RAM system but do not need to.

5. Proposed new EM Guidelines on Program Discontinuation – **Introduction Item**

- Loker, proud to be here to represent the group. Moved as an introduction item for approval. The group that crafted the essence of this document was determined to create guidelines to discontinue a program. Nursing program: voice vote. Outdoor Education: highly contested, it is challenging to write an EM that covers all of those type of situations. The work that went into crafting this document and this policy.
- (EPPC member) How is this document different, it supersedes two documents. Clarity in one document is better than having two to work between. Streamlined process that fits virtually any circumstance. Cannot go through point by point basis to compare but can say it has been condensed. The list of issues that need to be addressed is not an inclusive or exclusive list.
- (EPPC member) Much clearer consultative process, who gets consulted with and how they get consulted.
- (EPPC member) Under 4, end of the first paragraph, discrepancy often within a college (historical framework) clarify the meaning of a “review”. Everything from holding an actual meeting to printing a chain of emails. I am not so sure if this is really a consultative process. If people who are communicating by people
- (EPPC member) page 2, “notice to”... is there any language that could be added about notifying students well ahead of signing up for courses. This document is for after the process has occurred. Specifically applying to an action taken after a broad consultation process. No problem to add students to the list. The consultation process could take up to a year.
- (Maas) Degree searcher, she goes in an inputs that information so that it shows up in the degree searcher. If a program was discontinued in the spring would it be there in the fall.

- (EPPC member) we know students take course work and then declare a major after they have started the work. I could see that there might be an issue of who we are responsible to. (response) there will be communication with those that are enrolled in the class but will be challenged to get outside of that group (those who have not applied). A lot of it is tailored to the degree program.
- (EPPC member) minor editorial questions, (page 3) fifth bullet, why hasn't it been successful. Should the saw be before "when was the program reviewed and...."
- (EPPC member) interested in the difference between what "shall" include and that is a description in history which would be easily attainable in the proposal. The rational "may" include. What made this sectional list more optional. (response) because different programs and certificates have different requirements. (EPPC member) Believes that the "shall" means that the proposer shall bring rationale and the "may" allows them to explain the "shall". (EPPC member) When he changed "may" with "shall" the lines still make sense.
- (EPPC member) page 2 (second paragraph) shall be submitted first to EPPC (clear, say that it needs to be sent to EPPC after consultation by the college/department/program). The first step implies that it goes to EPPC before anyone/thing else. The proposal should be going to the Senate and allow the body to send it to EPPC. Keep it consistent with the language. When a curricular proposal comes in it goes to the Chair that takes it to EC and then takes it to EPPC (typically the process). The last sentence in that paragraph, maybe leave out the list of people to consult. Shall and not limited to clauses like later, should be consulting all parties listed. Next paragraph, redundant with something you say on the front page. Page 3 (the first bullet on the underlying thing on the top) Why is it being discontinued. Third bullet, why have efforts been made to improve the program. Why has it been discontinued (needs a reference). Take a look at the EPPC guidelines that were passed a few weeks ago.
- Programs EM02-10 says that programs are able to be reviewed. If you get rid of a degree you can get rid of tenure faculty, that is more concerning to people that are supporting a program. For the purposes of this policy a program is. . . .
- Strike "new" in front of the word "admission" on the last page.
- (EPPC member) Question refers to I. this policy governs all. This type of language is not usually in EM's which refers to the discontinuation of programs. (EPPC Chair) intentional reorganization of the way that EM's are done and are made available online. It is meant to identify right out of the gate about who is impacted by this policy. (EPPC member) if we are doing this as a format that we are helping people do searched then we should put academic programs. There is a lack of clarity and if we just put programs it will make things clearer.
- (EPPC member) Question if the proposed changes get made, we are taking out the may and have it all be shall. Does that mean that there are some things that are "must".

Things that EPPC thinks every proposer should have. It means all of those must be in a proposal.

- (EPPC member) EM 13-057 “graduate program suspension will be referred to the graduate council prior to be sending to EPPC.”
- (EPPC member) there has been other language that says it may go to EPPC. In order for it to even come here EC needs to approve it on the agenda. A little concerned about what exactly the consultative committee does and how the information from the conversations is reported and made available to the public.
- (EPPC member) It clarifies suspension. Bullet page 3 on page 3, what efforts have been made to improve. Change to “purpose of re-evaluating.”
- (EPPC member) Leave the list out totally (need clarification on each risk).

6. Other

7. Adjournment, 3:57 pm

APPENDIX A  
EPPC - October 10, 2014 – Katy Thoma’s notes

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**1. The history of the BCCER/ 2. How the Reserve was historically managed?**

**Native Americans/Mechoopda Indians** -The land that is now the reserve was home to Native Americans for over 500 years. The Mechoopda tribe was one of the many tribes that inhabited the lands. They were land stewards, enhancing production of resources by selectively burning and carefully cultivating natural stands of plants while gathering them for food and fiber.

**European Settlers**- By 1850 persons of European ancestry began to settle the area. In 1874 a **flume** was completed from near Chico Creek headwaters to the town of Chico, passing through the area of the BCCER. The flume operated until about 1910 when vast changes in the ecosystem started to occur. Much of the timberland was replaced by brush and the perennial native grasses were replaced by exotic annual grasses and weeds. Gradually the early homestead families sold their property to cattle ranchers and left the area.

**The Purchase of the Reserve**- The BCCER was acquired in two land purchases in 1999 and 2001. The University Research Foundation purchased 3,950 acres of land with grant money from the Wildlife Conservation Board, the Packard Foundation, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the River Network and Jack Henning. Part of the purchase agreement included a conservation easement held by the Wildlife Conservation Board and a Memorandum of Understanding with the CA Department of Fish and Game.

**3. What services it provided in the past?/4.What has changed?/ 5.What services are available now?**

The Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve and the Butte County Preserve now and in the past have offered Outdoor Education classes for K-12 classes. Faculty teach classes on the Reserve/Preserve regularly throughout the year. We have and have had ongoing student research projects on the reserve/preserve. We have a partnered with Cal Deer to offer a hunt lottery program for Deer and Turkey. In the past we have offered conference room rental and guided nature hikes.

MOU with Academic Affairs

**6. Personnel updates: who to contact at the reserve, what positions are vacant (if any)**

Packard Greer is the current acting Interim Coordinator for the Reserve and Leah McClain is the Admin Support for the Reserve. We are in the process of hiring an Education Coordinator, Ecological Reserve Director and we have an opening for a Student Assistant position at the reserve

**7. How do faculty, researchers, or schools gain access in order to utilize the reserve at this time**

RAMS! (Reserve Access Management System) To apply for access of the reserve/preserve please log into our website at [www.csuchico.edu/bccer/index.shtml](http://www.csuchico.edu/bccer/index.shtml) and click the link to the left hand side of the main page under the heading of Reserve Access. If for any reason you have any problems with submitting an application through RAMS please contact Leah McClain our Ecological Reserve Support Specialist for assistance with getting your application submitted. She will be happy to help you.

**Additional Notes:**

MOU with the Provost - \$285,000/year